

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 28, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 13, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 1, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2025

SENATE BILL

No. 607

Introduced by Senator Wiener

(Principal coauthor: ~~Assembly Member Wicks~~)

(Coauthor: Assembly Member ~~Ahrens~~) Solache)

February 20, 2025

An act to add Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 11899) to Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to ~~environmental quality~~; the California Science and Health Research Bond Act, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 607, as amended, Wiener. ~~California Environmental Quality Act: Infrastructure Projects~~. *California Science and Health Research Bond Act.*

Existing law establishes various grant and loan programs for research, including, among others, the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, California Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program, and the Public Interest Research, Development, and Demonstration Program.

This bill would establish the California Foundation for Science and Health Research within the Government Operations Agency. The bill would create the California Foundation for Science and Health Research Fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, and require the moneys in the fund to be used by the foundation to award grants and make loans to public or private research companies, universities, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development, in specific areas of research, including, but not limited to, biomedical, behavioral, and climate research.

This bill would create the California Foundation for Science and Health Research Council, as specified. The bill would require the council to, among other things, develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the foundation and determine the research projects that will be funded by the California Foundation for Science and Health Research Fund, as specified. The bill would require a majority vote by the appointed members for the council for the approval of funding for any research project or proposal presented for funding. The bill would authorize the council to establish one or more scientific peer review panels consisting of experts in specified fields of research for the purposes of reviewing and prioritizing proposals on the basis of the track record of the investigators, scientific merit of the proposal, and potential benefit to the health and well-being of the population, natural resources, and environment of the state.

This bill would require all research and development funded by the California Foundation for Science and Health Research Fund to be conducted under established standards of open scientific exchange, peer review, and public oversight. The bill would require the funds to be awarded on the basis of the research priorities established for the foundation by the council and the scientific merit of the proposed research, as determined by an open, competitive, scientific peer review process that ensures objectivity, consistency, and high quality.

This bill would enact the California Science and Health Research Bond Act, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$23,000,000,000, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, to finance grants and loans to fund research and construct, operate, and maintain facilities for research.

The bill would provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the next statewide general election.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of

public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

~~The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.~~

~~Existing law, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a critically important natural resource for California and the nation and it serves as both the hub of the California water system and the most valuable estuary and wetland ecosystem on the west coast of North and South America.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature that, among other things, no revisions shall be made to CEQA for purposes of the Delta Conveyance Project.~~

Vote: ~~majority~~^{2/3}. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~^{yes}. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. *The People of California find and declare the*
- 2 *following:*
- 3 (a) *Since World War II, the United States has been a global*
- 4 *leader in scientific and health research and innovation. Through*
- 5 *the financial support of governmental agencies including, but not*
- 6 *limited to, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National*
- 7 *Institutes of Health (NIH), the United States Food and Drug*
- 8 *Administration (FDA), the federal Centers for Disease Control*
- 9 *and Prevention (CDC), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric*
- 10 *Administration (NOAA), the scientific and health communities*
- 11 *have been able to create life-enhancing scientific, biomedical, and*
- 12 *public health discoveries.*

1 (b) Americans have benefited enormously from that research
2 with improved health, cures for diseases, vaccines, and improved
3 air quality and environment. The United States economy has
4 benefited greatly from that research as well.

5 (c) California produces an astonishing share of the top scientific
6 research on the planet. It is estimated that \$3 of every \$10 in
7 federal research investments are drawn to California. The state
8 accounts for about 47 percent of United States biotechnology
9 research and development spending and generates about 53
10 percent of the nation's biotechnology revenues. Nearly one-half
11 of all venture capital in the United States is invested in California.
12 That success is driven in large part by the state's world-class
13 universities and research institutions. The University of California
14 is the top research institution in the world for United States patent
15 generation. Every dollar invested in science funding generates
16 more than \$2 in economic activity.

17 (d) Despite the benefits to the country and the state, the Trump
18 Administration has repeatedly sought major budget cuts to federal
19 science agencies, including the NSF, the NIH, the CDC, the NOAA,
20 the FDA, the National Weather Service, and the National
21 Aeronautics and Space Administration. The Trump administration
22 has sought to scale back or eliminate specific programs, for
23 example, in climate science, environmental research, and pandemic
24 preparedness.

25 (e) The Trump administration has disrupted lifesaving medical
26 research by freezing federal grants and proposing deep cuts to
27 health and science agencies. These actions have stalled work on
28 heart disease, Alzheimer's disease, HIV/AIDS, health disparities
29 for at-risk communities, and cancer, and have raised fears that
30 political interference could undermine the United States's and
31 California's role as leaders in scientific research innovation.

32 (f) The Trump administration's interference with scientific
33 advisory panels and public health guidance has raised serious
34 concerns within the research community. Critics argue that these
35 actions have undermined the United States' scientific capacity and
36 has threatened the United States' and California's continued
37 leadership in biomedical, environmental, and public health
38 research.

39 (g) Federal research funding has been integral in supporting
40 the work of public and private research institutions in California.

1 For example, federal funding supports a significant part of the
 2 University of California’s (UC) and California State University’s
 3 (CSU) research operations. Federal grants pay for faculty research
 4 and the salaries of graduate and postdoctoral student researchers.
 5 Federal research grants totaled more than \$5,000,000,000 to the
 6 University of California in the 2023–24 fiscal year. Public and
 7 private university research has led to the founding of thousands
 8 of startups, driving economic expansion and technological
 9 innovation. Federal funding reductions limit research opportunities
 10 and may impede California’s competitiveness and economic
 11 progress.

12 (h) The Trump administration has now directed its antiscience
 13 and punitive agenda squarely against California. In July 2025,
 14 the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) received notice
 15 that the federal government, through its control of the NSF, NIH,
 16 and the United States Department of Energy, is suspending certain
 17 research funding to UCLA. This is not only a loss to the
 18 researchers who rely on critical grants. It is a loss for Americans
 19 across the nation whose work, health, and future depend on the
 20 groundbreaking work done in California.

21 (i) As of late August 2025, the Trump administration has frozen
 22 or suspended approximately \$584,000,000 in federal research
 23 grants to UCLA. The Trump administration has demanded
 24 \$1,000,000,000 in fine payments to unfreeze federal funding.
 25 According to UC leaders and California officials, a \$1,000,000,000
 26 payment to the Trump administration would “completely
 27 devastate” the UC system. A prolonged funding impasse could
 28 jeopardize thousands of critical research projects in medicine,
 29 engineering, and biosciences. Programs at risk include life-saving
 30 research in cancer treatment, disease diagnostics, chronic diseases,
 31 climate science, and earthquake preparedness.

32 (j) Because the federal government has been one of the largest
 33 funders of scientific research in California, foundations, nonprofits,
 34 and corporations cannot make up the gap alone. Unless the people
 35 of California rise up, much of this critical work may come to a
 36 halt.

37 (k) The people of California propose this ballot measure to
 38 create the California Foundation for Science and Health Research
 39 (the “Foundation”) to award grants and make loans to public and
 40 private universities, research companies, institutes, and health

1 care organizations in California for scientific and health care
2 research and development.

3 (l) Through the Foundation, funding would be distributed to
4 UC, CSU, other California universities, and public and private
5 entities engaged in critical science and health research. It would
6 provide funding for staff, equipment, and facilities needed to carry
7 out scientific research in fields including, but not limited to, public
8 health, mental health, heart disease, cancer treatment, diabetes,
9 Alzheimer's disease, strokes, child and adult leukemia, infectious
10 diseases, and HIV/AIDS. Priority would be given to established
11 research projects where the federal government has canceled
12 funding. The measure would require annual audits.

13 (m) This measure will help preserve California's position as a
14 global leader in scientific innovation. This measure would allow
15 important research to continue regardless of what happens at the
16 federal level. This measure will ensure that California is not left
17 behind.

18 (n) This measure will help sustain and grow the workforce of
19 the state, with runoff economic benefits that will ensure a thriving
20 future for Californians. This measure will support thousands of
21 students and researchers at California universities in good-paying
22 union jobs in growing industries. Supporting good-paying jobs in
23 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics will help keep
24 California economically competitive and generate billions of
25 dollars each year in economic growth.

26 (o) There is some science that only public institutions will take
27 on, for example cancer drug trials that combine drugs from
28 different pharmaceutical companies, or as yet, unproven
29 technologies in renewable energy. This measure would continue
30 funding scientific research that looks beyond the profit motive for
31 the greater good.

32 (p) California's university and college system is a model for
33 universities everywhere, involving students closely in practical,
34 life-saving research. Cuts to federal funding threaten our students'
35 ability to learn the research skills they need to succeed. This
36 measure will preserve California's university and college system
37 as a pathway to the middle class for California students.

38 (q) Too many Californians are driven into homelessness by drug
39 abuse and mental health issues. This measure will help address

1 this problem by continuing to fund critical research on promising
2 mental health and addiction treatments.

3 (r) This measure contains strict fiscal accountability and
4 transparency standards, including annual independent audits and
5 public disclosure of all funding to ensure that Legislative
6 allocations and bond funding is spent effectively, efficiently, and
7 as promised.

8 SEC. 2. Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 11899) is added
9 to Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

10
11 *CHAPTER 12. CALIFORNIA SCIENCE AND HEALTH RESEARCH*
12 *BOND ACT*

13
14 *Article 1. California Foundation for Science and Health*
15 *Research*

16
17 11899. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the
18 following meaning:

19 (a) “Act” means the California Science and Health Research
20 Bond Act constituting this chapter.

21 (b) “Committee” means the California Foundation for Science
22 and Health Research Finance Committee created pursuant to
23 subdivision (a) of Section 11899.16.

24 (c) “Council” means the California Foundation for Science
25 and Health Research Finance Council created pursuant to
26 subdivision (a) of Section 11899.3.

27 (d) “Foundation” means the California Foundation for Science
28 and Health Research established pursuant to subdivision (a) of
29 Section 11899.1.

30 (e) “Fund” means the California Foundation for Science and
31 Health Research Fund created pursuant to Section 11899.2.

32 (f) “Interim debt” means any interim loans pursuant to Sections
33 11899.20 and 11899.21, bond anticipation notes or commercial
34 paper notes issued to make deposits into the fund, and which will
35 be paid from the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to Article 2
36 (commencing with Section 11899.10).

37 11899.1. (a) The California Foundation for Science and Health
38 Research is established within the Government Operations Agency.

39 (b) The foundation’s role is to facilitate scientific research by
40 awarding grants and making loans to public or private research

1 companies, universities, institutes, and organizations for scientific
2 research and development and to construct facilities for research
3 and development, including, but not limited to, any of the following
4 fields:

5 (1) Biomedical, including finding cures for high mortality
6 diseases, including, but not limited to, cancer, Alzheimer's disease,
7 heart disease, strokes, child and adult leukemia, infectious diseases,
8 and HIV/AIDS.

9 (2) Detecting and responding to new and emerging health
10 threats.

11 (3) Disease prevention, including, but not limited to, cancer,
12 Alzheimer's disease, heart disease, strokes, child and adult
13 leukemia, infectious diseases, and HIV/AIDS.

14 (4) Promoting healthy and safe behaviors, communities, and
15 environment.

16 (5) Wildfire prevention.

17 (6) Addiction and substance use.

18 (7) Behavioral.

19 (8) Climate, including climate change and its impact on human
20 health.

21 (9) Weather.

22 (10) Ocean.

23 (11) Coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

24 (12) Emerging technologies.

25 (13) Safety, efficacy, and security of drugs, biological products,
26 medical devices, our nation's food supply, and cosmetics.

27 11899.2. (a) (1) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, funds
28 shall be deposited into the California Foundation for Science and
29 Health Research Fund, which is hereby created in the State
30 Treasury.

31 (2) The California Foundation for Science and Health Research
32 Fund may be funded by both private and public funds, including
33 private donations.

34 (b) The proceeds of interim debt and bonds issued and sold
35 pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 11899.10) shall
36 be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the California
37 Foundation for Science and Health Research Fund, except as
38 stated in Section 11899.13.

39 (c) Moneys in the fund shall be used by the foundation to award
40 public and private grants and make loans to public or private

1 research companies, universities, institutes, and organizations for
2 scientific research and development, including, but not limited to,
3 research in any of the fields described in subdivision (b) of Section
4 11899.1.

5 (d) (1) All research and development funded by the fund shall
6 be conducted under established standards of open scientific
7 exchange, peer review, and public oversight.

8 (2) All grants or loans provided under this section shall be
9 awarded or made available to researchers or projects located
10 within this state, except that funding for research collaboratives
11 between California and out-of-state researchers shall be permitted.

12 (3) All grants or loans provided under this section shall be
13 awarded based on both of the following:

14 (A) Consistency with the research priorities established for the
15 foundation by the California Foundation for Science and Health
16 Research Council as described in subdivision (a) of Section
17 11899.3.

18 (B) The scientific merit of the proposed research, as determined
19 by an open, competitive, scientific peer review process that ensures
20 objectivity, consistency, and high quality, as described in
21 subdivision (e) of Section 11899.3.

22 (4) The foundation shall prioritize funding research that replaces
23 funding cuts by the federal government.

24 (5) To be eligible for funding, all research projects submitted
25 for potential funding shall be reviewed and approved by an
26 institutional review board that meets the requirements of applicable
27 laws and regulations.

28 (e) The Secretary of Government Operations shall oversee the
29 process of appointing the director of the foundation and shall set
30 the level of salaries, bonuses, and benefits for the director. The
31 task of hiring and determining the salaries, bonuses, and benefits
32 of additional personnel may be delegated by the Secretary to the
33 director, subject to approval and oversight by the Secretary.

34 (f) Not more than three percent of the moneys in the fund shall
35 be used for administrative costs. Administrative costs include, but
36 are not limited to, all of the following:

37 (1) Salaries, bonuses, and benefits paid or incurred with respect
38 to the hiring or retention of a director of the foundation and other
39 officers and administrative staff that shall work on behalf of the
40 foundation under the supervision of the director.

1 (2) *Legal and accounting fees and expenses.*

2 (3) *All costs associated with the establishment and operation*
3 *of the foundation, including, but not limited to, office rent,*
4 *overhead, information technology and data systems, office supplies*
5 *and equipment, clerical services, utilities, telephone, travel, repairs*
6 *and maintenance, program audits, and other general costs of*
7 *operating the foundation.*

8 (g) *All intellectual property assets developed using funds*
9 *authorized for, or made available to, the foundation shall be treated*
10 *pursuant to state and federal law.*

11 11899.3. (a) *There is hereby established the California*
12 *Foundation for Science and Health Research Council that shall*
13 *do all of the following:*

14 (1) *Develop the strategic objectives and research priorities of*
15 *the foundation.*

16 (2) *Actively participate in the overall management of the*
17 *foundation.*

18 (3) *Determine which research projects will be funded by the*
19 *fund based on the research priorities established for the foundation*
20 *pursuant to paragraph (1) and the technical merits of the*
21 *proposals, as determined by scientific peer review panels created*
22 *pursuant to subdivision (e).*

23 (4) *Determine which state agency will oversee a research project*
24 *funded by the fund, including, but not limited to:*

25 (A) *Office of Emergency Services.*

26 (B) *Natural Resources Agency.*

27 (C) *California Health and Human Services Agency.*

28 (b) (1) *The council shall consist of 10 to 13 members appointed*
29 *by the Secretary of Government Operations.*

30 (A) *A majority of members of the council shall be scientists,*
31 *including at least one member who is a graduate-level researcher*
32 *and at least one member who is a postdoctoral scholar, with*
33 *current or past research experience in the fields described in*
34 *subdivision (b) of Section 11899.1.*

35 (B) *At least two members of the council shall be members of*
36 *the public.*

37 (C) *One representative designated by the President of the*
38 *University of California, if the president chooses to designate a*
39 *representative.*

1 (D) One representative designated by the Chancellor of the
2 California State University, if the chancellor chooses to designate
3 a representative.

4 (2) (A) Individuals and organizations may submit nominations
5 for membership to the Secretary of Government Operations.

6 (B) The Secretary of Government Operations may solicit
7 nominations from relevant organizations and individuals.

8 (c) (1) The members of the council shall serve four-year terms.
9 A member shall serve a maximum of two terms.

10 (2) If a vacancy occurs within a term, the Secretary of
11 Government Operations shall appoint a replacement member
12 within 45 days to serve the remainder of the term.

13 (3) A vacancy affecting the proportional representation shall
14 be filled before grants are approved.

15 (4) When a term expires, the Secretary of Government
16 Operations shall appoint a member within 30 days. A member
17 shall serve until their replacement is appointed.

18 (d) (1) A vote of a majority of the members of the council shall
19 be required for the approval of funding of any research project or
20 proposal presented for funding.

21 (2) The council shall contain the proportional representation
22 of appointees described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) when
23 the council approves the funding of research grants.

24 (e) (1) The council may establish one or more scientific peer
25 review panels consisting of experts in the fields described in
26 subdivision (b) of Section 11899.1 for the purposes of reviewing
27 and prioritizing proposals on the basis of the track record of the
28 researchers and investigators, scientific merit of the proposal, and
29 potential benefits to the health and well-being of the population,
30 natural resources, and environment of the state.

31 (2) An expert on a scientific review panel shall not have a
32 collaborative or commercial relationship with any applicant of a
33 proposal for funding that the expert is reviewing and prioritizing
34 pursuant to paragraph (1).

35 (f) Council members shall serve without compensation, but may
36 receive reimbursement for travel and necessary expenses actually
37 incurred in the performance of their duties.

38 11899.4. (a) The foundation shall issue an annual report that
39 sets forth the foundation's activities, grants awarded, grants in
40 progress, research accomplishments, and future program

1 *directions. The annual report shall be published on the*
2 *foundation's internet website.*

3 *(b) Each annual report shall include, but not be limited to, all*
4 *of the following:*

5 *(1) The number and dollar amounts of research and facilities*
6 *grants.*

7 *(2) The grantees for the prior year.*

8 *(3) The foundation's administrative expenses.*

9 *(4) An assessment of the availability of funding for research*
10 *from sources other than the foundation.*

11 *(5) A summary of research findings, including promising new*
12 *research areas.*

13 *(6) An assessment of the relationship between the foundation's*
14 *grants and the overall strategy of its research program.*

15 *(7) A report of the foundation's strategic research and financial*
16 *plans.*

17 *11899.5. The foundation shall annually commission an*
18 *independent financial audit of its activities from a certified public*
19 *accounting firm, which shall be provided to the Controller, who*
20 *shall review the audit and annually issue a public report of that*
21 *review. The Controller shall hold a public meeting with appropriate*
22 *notice and a formal public comment period. The Controller shall*
23 *evaluate public comments and shall include appropriate summaries*
24 *in the annual report.*

25 *11899.6. (a) The Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9*
26 *(commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1) shall apply to all*
27 *meetings of the foundation, except as otherwise provided in this*
28 *section. The foundation shall disclose all awarded grants in public*
29 *meetings, shall award all grants, loans, and contracts in public*
30 *meetings, and shall adopt all governance, scientific, medical, and*
31 *regulatory standards in public meetings.*

32 *(b) The foundation may conduct closed sessions as permitted*
33 *by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing*
34 *with Section 11120) of Chapter 1) under Section 11126. In*
35 *addition, the foundation may conduct closed sessions when it meets*
36 *to consider or discuss any of the following:*

37 *(1) Matters involving information relating to patients or medical*
38 *or scientific research subjects, the disclosure of which would*
39 *constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.*

1 (2) Matters involving confidential intellectual property or a
2 work product, whether patentable or not, including, but not limited
3 to, any formula, plan, pattern, process, tool, mechanism,
4 compound, procedure, production data, or compilation of
5 information that is not patented, that is known only to certain
6 individuals who are using it to fabricate, produce, or compound
7 an article of trade or a service having commercial value, and that
8 gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over
9 competitors who do not know it or use it.

10 (3) Matters involving scientific data, analyses, or other research
11 products not yet formally published in academic literature.

12 (4) Matters concerning the appointment, employment,
13 performance, compensation, or dismissal of foundation officers
14 and employees. Action on compensation of the foundation's officers
15 and employees shall only be taken in open session.

16 (5) Matters believed to pose a security risk to the people of
17 California.

18
19 Article 2. California Foundation for Science and Health
20 Research Bonds

21
22 11899.10. The proceeds of bonds, excluding those issued in
23 accordance with Section 11899.23, issued and sold pursuant to
24 this article shall be deposited into the California Foundation for
25 Science and Health Research Fund. All moneys in the fund,
26 notwithstanding Section 13340, are hereby continuously
27 appropriated without respect to fiscal years for the purposes of
28 this chapter.

29 11899.11. The sum of ____ dollars (\$____) shall be available
30 for grants and loans to fund the construction and acquisition of
31 facilities for research as provided in this chapter.

32 11899.12. (a) The sum of ____ dollars (\$____) shall be
33 available for all of the following:

34 (1) Grants and loans to fund research and operate and maintain
35 facilities for research as provided in this chapter.

36 (2) Paying general administrative costs of the foundation, not
37 to exceed 3 percent of the net proceeds of each sale of bonds.

38 (3) Paying the annual administration costs of the interim debt
39 or bonds after December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after
40 this article takes effect.

1 (4) *Paying the costs of issuing interim debt, paying the annual*
2 *administration costs of the interim debt until and including*
3 *December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes*
4 *effect, and paying interest on interim debt, if that interim debt is*
5 *incurred or issued on or before December 31 of the fifth full*
6 *calendar year after this article takes effect.*

7 (5) *Paying the costs of issuing bonds, paying the annual*
8 *administration costs of the bonds until and including December*
9 *31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, and*
10 *paying interest on bonds that accrues on or before December 31*
11 *of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, except*
12 *that this limitation does not apply to premium and accrued interest*
13 *as provided in Section 11899.22.*

14 (6) *Moneys in the fund or other proceeds of the sale of bonds*
15 *authorized by this article may be used to pay principal of or*
16 *redemption premium on any interim debt issued before the issuance*
17 *of bonds authorized by this article. Moneys deposited into the fund*
18 *from the proceeds of interim debt may be used to pay general*
19 *administrative costs of the foundation without regard to the*
20 *3-percent limit set forth in paragraph (2), so long as the 3-percent*
21 *limit is satisfied for each issue of bonds.*

22 (b) *Repayment of principal and interest on any loans made by*
23 *the foundation pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the*
24 *fund and used to make additional grants and loans for the purposes*
25 *of this act or for paying continuing costs of the annual*
26 *administration of outstanding bonds.*

27 (c) *Costs allowable under this section include costs incidentally*
28 *but directly related to construction or acquisition, including, but*
29 *not limited to, planning, engineering, construction management,*
30 *architectural, and other design work, environmental impact reports*
31 *and assessments, required mitigation expenses, appraisals, legal*
32 *expenses, site acquisitions, and necessary easements.*

33 11899.13. *The proceeds of interim debt and bonds issued and*
34 *sold pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the State*
35 *Treasury to the credit of the California Foundation for Science*
36 *and Health Research Fund, except to the extent that proceeds of*
37 *the issuance of bonds are used directly to repay interim debt.*

38 11899.14. (a) *Bonds in the total amount of twenty-three billion*
39 *dollars (\$23,000,000,000), not including the amount of any*
40 *refunding bonds issued in accordance with Section 11899.23, may*

1 *be issued and sold for the purposes expressed in this article and*
2 *to reimburse the General Obligation Bond Expense Revolving*
3 *Fund pursuant to Section 16724.5. The bonds, when sold, issued,*
4 *and delivered, shall be and constitute a valid and binding*
5 *obligation of the State of California, and the full faith and credit*
6 *of the State of California is hereby pledged for the punctual*
7 *payment of both the principal of, and interest on, the bonds as the*
8 *principal and interest become due and payable.*

9 *(b) The Treasurer shall issue and sell the bonds authorized in*
10 *subdivision (a) in the amount determined by the committee to be*
11 *necessary or desirable pursuant to Section 11899.15. The bonds*
12 *shall be issued and sold upon the terms and conditions specified*
13 *in a resolution to be adopted by the committee pursuant to Section*
14 *16731.*

15 *11899.15. (a) The bonds authorized by this article shall be*
16 *prepared, executed, issued, sold, paid, and redeemed as provided*
17 *in the State General Obligation Bond Law (Chapter 4 (commencing*
18 *with Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4), as amended from*
19 *time to time, and all of the provisions of that law apply to the bonds*
20 *and to this article and are hereby incorporated in this article as*
21 *though set forth in full in this article, except that subdivisions (a)*
22 *and (b) of Section 16727 shall not apply.*

23 *(b) For purposes of this article, the references to “committee”*
24 *in the State General Obligation Bond Law shall mean the*
25 *California Foundation for Science and Health Research Finance*
26 *Committee created in Section 11899.16, and the references to*
27 *“board” in the State General Obligation Bond Law shall mean*
28 *the California Foundation for Science and Health Research.*

29 *11899.16. (a) Solely for the purpose of authorizing the issuance*
30 *and sale, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of*
31 *the bonds and interim debt authorized by this article, the California*
32 *Foundation for Science and Health Research Finance Committee*
33 *is hereby created.*

34 *(b) (1) The committee consists of all of the following:*

35 *(A) The Treasurer.*

36 *(B) The Controller.*

37 *(C) The Director of Finance.*

38 *(D) The Director of the California Foundation for Science and*
39 *Health Research.*

1 (E) Two members of the California Foundation for Science and
2 Health Research Council, chosen by the Secretary of Government
3 Operations, or their designated representatives.

4 (2) The Treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the committee.
5 A majority of the committee may act for the committee.

6 11899.17. (a) The committee, by resolution, shall determine
7 whether or not it is necessary or desirable to issue and sell bonds
8 authorized pursuant to this article in order to carry out the actions
9 specified in this article and, if so, the amount of bonds to be issued
10 and sold. Successive issues of bonds may be authorized and sold
11 to carry out those actions progressively, and it is not necessary
12 that all of the bonds authorized to be issued be sold at any one
13 time. The bonds may bear interest, which is includable in gross
14 income for federal income tax purposes if the committee determines
15 that the treatment is necessary in order to provide funds for the
16 purposes of the act.

17 (b) An interest-only floating rate bond structure will be
18 implemented for interim debt and bonds until at least December
19 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, with
20 all interest to be paid from proceeds from the sale of interim debt
21 or bonds, to minimize debt service payable from the General Fund
22 during the initial period of basic research and development, if the
23 committee determines, with the advice of the Treasurer, that this
24 structure will result in the lowest achievable borrowing costs for
25 the state during that five-year period considering the objective of
26 avoiding any bond debt service payments, by the General Fund,
27 during that period. Upon the initial determination, the committee
28 may delegate, by resolution, to the Treasurer the authority in
29 connection with issuance of bonds as it may determine, including,
30 but not limited to, the authority to do both of the following:

31 (1) Implement and continue the bond financing structure
32 established by this article, including during any time following
33 the initial five-year period.

34 (2) Determine that an alternative financing plan would result
35 in significant lower borrowing costs for the state consistent with
36 the objectives related to the General Fund and to implement that
37 alternative financing plan.

38 11899.18. There shall be collected each year and in the same
39 manner and at the same time as other state revenue is collected,
40 in addition to the ordinary revenues of the state, a sum in an

1 amount required to pay the principal of, and interest on, the bonds
2 becoming due each year. It is the duty of all officers charged by
3 law with any duty in regard to the collection of the revenue to do
4 and perform each and every act that is necessary to collect that
5 additional sum.

6 11899.19. Notwithstanding Section 13340, there is hereby
7 continuously appropriated from the General Fund in the State
8 Treasury, for the purposes of this article and without regard to
9 fiscal years, an amount that equals the total of both of the
10 following:

11 (a) The sum annually necessary to pay the principal of, and
12 interest on, bonds issued and sold pursuant to this article, as the
13 principal and interest become due and payable.

14 (b) The sum necessary to carry out Section 11899.20.

15 11899.20. The foundation may request the Pooled Money
16 Investment Board to make a loan from the Pooled Money
17 Investment Account, in accordance with Section 16312, for the
18 purposes of carrying out this article less any amount withdrawn
19 pursuant to Section 11899.21 and not yet returned to the General
20 Fund. The amount of the request shall not exceed the amount of
21 the unsold bonds that the committee, by resolution, has authorized
22 to be sold for the purpose of carrying out this article, excluding
23 any refunding bonds authorized pursuant to Section 11899.23,
24 less any amount loaned pursuant to this section and not yet repaid
25 and any amount withdrawn from the General Fund pursuant to
26 Section 11899.21 and not yet returned to the General Fund. The
27 foundation shall execute any documents required by the Pooled
28 Money Investment Board to obtain and repay the loan. Any
29 amounts loaned shall be deposited into the fund to be allocated
30 by the foundation in accordance with this article.

31 11899.21. For the purposes of carrying out this article, the
32 Director of Finance may authorize the withdrawal from the
33 General Fund of an amount, not to exceed the amount of the unsold
34 bonds that have been authorized by the committee, to be sold for
35 the purpose of carrying out this article, excluding any refunding
36 bonds authorized pursuant to Section 11899.23, less any amount
37 loaned pursuant to Section 11899.20 and not yet repaid, and any
38 amount withdrawn from the General Fund pursuant to this section
39 and not yet returned to the General Fund. Any amount withdrawn
40 shall be deposited into the fund. Any moneys made available under

1 this section shall be returned to the General Fund, with interest
2 at the rate earned by the moneys in the Pooled Money Investment
3 Account, from proceeds received from the sale of bonds for the
4 purpose of carrying out this article.

5 11899.22. All moneys deposited into the fund that are derived
6 from premium and accrued interest on bonds sold pursuant to this
7 article shall be reserved in the fund and shall be available for
8 transfer to the General Fund as a credit to expenditures for bond
9 interest, except those amounts derived from premium may be
10 reserved and used to pay the cost of bond issuance before any
11 transfer to the General Fund.

12 11899.23. The bonds issued and sold pursuant to this article
13 may be refunded in accordance with Article 6 (commencing with
14 Section 16780) of Chapter 4 of Part 3 of Division 4, which is a
15 part of the State General Obligation Bond Law. Approval by the
16 voters of the state for the issuance of the bonds described in this
17 article includes the approval of the issuance of any bonds issued
18 to refund any bonds originally issued under this article or any
19 previously issued refunding bonds. Any bond refunded with the
20 proceeds of refunding bonds as authorized by this section may be
21 legally defeased to the extent permitted by law in the manner and
22 to the extent set forth in the resolution, as amended from time to
23 time, authorizing that refunded bond.

24 11899.24. Notwithstanding any provision of this article or the
25 State General Obligation Bond Law, if the Treasurer sells bonds
26 pursuant to this article that include a bond counsel opinion to the
27 effect that the interest on the bonds is excluded from gross income
28 for federal tax purposes, under designated conditions, or is
29 otherwise entitled to any federal tax advantage, the Treasurer may
30 maintain separate accounts for the investment of bond proceeds
31 and for the investment of earnings on those proceeds. The
32 Treasurer may use or direct the use of those proceeds or earnings
33 to pay any rebate, penalty, or other payment required under federal
34 law or to take any other action with respect to the investment and
35 use of bond proceeds or earnings required or desirable under
36 federal law to maintain the tax-exempt status of those bonds and
37 to obtain any other advantage under federal law on behalf of the
38 funds of this state.

39 11899.25. The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by
40 this article are not "proceeds of taxes" as that term is used in

1 *Article XIII B of the California Constitution, and the disbursement*
2 *of these proceeds is not subject to the limitations imposed by that*
3 *article.*

4 *SEC. 3. Section 2 of this act shall take effect upon the approval*
5 *by the voters of the California Science and Health Research Bond*
6 *Act, as set forth in Section 2 of this act.*

7 *SEC. 4. Section 2 of this act shall be submitted to the voters at*
8 *the next statewide election in accordance with provisions of the*
9 *Government Code and the Elections Code governing the*
10 *submission of a statewide measure to the voters.*

11 *SEC. 5. This act shall be broadly construed to accomplish its*
12 *purposes. The statutory provisions of the act may be amended so*
13 *long as those amendments are consistent with and further the intent*
14 *of this act by a statute that is passed by a two-thirds vote of the*
15 *members of each house of the Legislature and signed by the*
16 *Governor.*

17 *SEC. 6. The provisions of this act are severable. If any portion,*
18 *section, subdivision, paragraph, clause, sentence, phrase, word,*
19 *or application of this act is for any reason held to be invalid by a*
20 *decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, that decision shall*
21 *not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act. The*
22 *people of the State of California hereby declare that they would*
23 *have adopted this act and each and every portion, section,*
24 *subdivision, paragraph, clause, sentence, phrase, word, and*
25 *application not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard*
26 *to whether any portion of this act or application thereof would be*
27 *subsequently declared invalid.*

28 *SEC. 7. (a) This act shall be liberally construed to effectuate*
29 *its purposes.*

30 *(b) If this measure is approved by the voters but superseded in*
31 *whole or in part by a conflicting measure approved by the voters*
32 *at the same election, and the conflicting measure is later held to*
33 *be invalid, this measure shall be self-executing and given full force*
34 *and effect.*

35 *SEC. 8. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 2 of*
36 *this act, which adds Section 11899.6 to the Government Code,*
37 *imposes a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings*
38 *of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies*
39 *within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California*
40 *Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the*

1 *Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest*
2 *protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that*
3 *interest:*

4 *To protect the privacy rights and the intellectual property*
5 *interests of individuals and the security of the public, it is necessary*
6 *to restrict the public's access to this information.*

7 ~~SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:~~

8 ~~(a) The California Environmental Quality Act provides~~
9 ~~communities across California with important safeguards against~~
10 ~~projects like fossil fuel plants and warehouses that have caused~~
11 ~~real environmental harm to residents of the state. Too often, it has~~
12 ~~resulted in delays to essential projects that are key to solving the~~
13 ~~state's housing crisis and to strategic development that is necessary~~
14 ~~to maintain California's position as the fourth largest economy in~~
15 ~~the world.~~

16 ~~(b) Over the last several years, the Legislature has enacted~~
17 ~~numerous provisions that streamline the California Environmental~~
18 ~~Quality Act, including, but not limited to, reforms to administrative~~
19 ~~records, court timelines, and the level of environmental review of~~
20 ~~projects in the areas of water, transportation, clean energy, and~~
21 ~~housing.~~

22 ~~SEC. 2. (a) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to make~~
23 ~~necessary statutory changes to the California Environmental~~
24 ~~Quality Act to ensure the state meets its infrastructure needs and~~
25 ~~is more affordable for all Californians.~~

26 ~~(2) Specifically, the Legislature intends to enact legislation as~~
27 ~~part of the 2025 state budget process that expedites projects such~~
28 ~~as those that provide housing, clean energy jobs, and critical~~
29 ~~transportation and lead to economic development for hardworking~~
30 ~~California families. It is the intent of the Legislature to make~~
31 ~~communities more wildfire safe and expedite the ability of local~~
32 ~~governments to provide clean drinking water to all residents. It is~~
33 ~~the intent of the Legislature to ensure that critical projects are not~~
34 ~~delayed or impeded by the numerous outdated requirements in the~~
35 ~~California Environmental Quality Act, without compromising~~
36 ~~environmental protections.~~

1 ~~(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that no revisions shall be~~
2 ~~made to the California Environmental Quality Act for purposes of~~
3 ~~the Delta Conveyance Project.~~

O